

Office of the
Vice President and Provost

To (Howard Simms)

THE WASHINGTON POST

Saturday, July 13, 1968

7/23/68

Dear Josh,

I don't want to become an unseemly one-man clique, but your column of July 13th (Wash. Post) is too brilliantly on target to ignore.

Can't the Daily publish it? I recall your saying there were problems, such as their not being interested. Incredible!

Are young people really so ~~hypnotic~~ myopic that they can only see ROTC and the selection of SU's next President as issues worth conducting a revolution for? By pointing out that the condition of the last 30 years is not an immutable fact of nature like rain and sun you remind people (of any age) that caring about the really important might actually do some good.

Yours,

RWL

OK? Josh.

Yes
Howard

erg

it From Under ow of the Bomb

the bricks and I know-how from ling of the cities.

COSTS of terror ion are known to preciated by few; certainly received acidental priority il action. Indeed, ask an awkward "Are the Ameri- s, or the Russian, ly to talk peace?" sident and the he can recruit for st and most diffi- on may have a n of an unshackled l in, striving for it lead the people—

pointed out that hostility, once established, is a dis- ease hard to remedy. Cer- tainly, to berate the anxiety and prejudice of the radical right and Red-hating move- ments does nothing to allevi- ate their deep-rooted appeal to fear. Rational argument is not necessarily better at alleviating political paran- phia.

The only reliable approach to alleviating group hostility, according to the studies of social psychologists, is co- operation in reaching super- ordinate goals. Most of us already perceive such a goal: sheer survival, for no one wins a thermonuclear

ORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
STANFORD MEDICAL CENTER
PASTEUR DRIVE, PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA 94304

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS
Professor Joshua Lederberg

Dear Dick--

Thank you for your note of the 23d. Putting out a weekly effort is just taxing enough that I won't get bored by either your commendations or criticisms.

I will be very happy to have the Daily print it, and will take responsibility for the formal approval of the copyright-holder (the Post).

May I suggest that you think about addressing our students (perhaps the same way) in the spirit of your note?

Sincerely,

Josh.